



Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

June 14, 2011

Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners


We are writing in response to your call for comments on the proposed merger between T-Mobile and Sprint, which is on your 11-65 docket. Thank you for the opportunity to respond on this issue.

Communications technology connects people with each other, with the rest of the world, and with the future. That's what we do, too, at our organization. Since it began in 1990, the Mentors Project of Bibb County has grown from a few mentors in one school to over 250 mentors in 14 schools. Our program has been successful in keeping kids in school and away from drugs and crime. Mentors and protégés establish and maintain long-term commitments. Mentors encourage and motivate, and protégés have someone helping them to reach their full potential. Mentors introduce these students to the possibilities that the world and the future have to offer, in much the same way that technology does.

When we read about the outcome of this merger—the near-universal access to mobile and wireless broadband for more areas, including rural, minority, and underserved communities—we immediately thought about applications for our program. Better access to this fast, reliable technology will help us to spread the word about our work and expand our program, and it will help our mentors and protégés to remain connected and collaborative.

But most importantly, this technology will bring opportunities to more people and open up more economic options for younger generations. High-speed wireless broadband will let more people take advantage of distance learning and telecommuting work, and it will bring educational enrichment and professional advantages directly to individuals. We're excited about these possibilities and think that everyone ought to have these chances. This merger stands to make all of that happen and more, and it could do so in a remarkably short period of time. I hope you will consent to make it happen.

Sincerely,


The Mentors Project of Bibb County

CC:

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowd
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

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